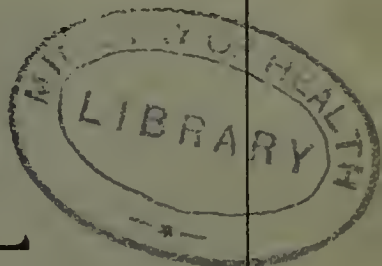


WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1955

T. KENRICK HUGHES,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

D. THOMAS,
F.S.I.A., C.M.I.



STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

T. KENRICK HUGHES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING OFFICER

D. THOMAS, F.S.I.A., C.M.I.

SANITARY, HOUSING AND PETROLEUM INSPECTORS

S. DAVIES, C.M.I.

H. C. D. JONES.

C. DAVIES.

D. R. GEORGE.

E. LLOYD, C.M.I.

PUPIL SANITARY INSPECTORS

D. O. HUGHES.

S. A. HUGHES.

B. JONES.

REFUSE REMOVAL SUPERINTENDENT

W. I. HUGHES.*

CHIEF CLERK

Miss O. M. DAVIES.

JUNIOR CLERK

Miss E. JONES.

ENGINEER

T. A. BOWEN, M.I.MUN.E.

DEPUTY ENGINEER

N. HUGHES, A.M.I.MUN.E.*

E. R. MYERS, A.M.I.MUN.E.*

HEALTH COMMITTEE (1955)

CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR R. D. JONES.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR E. POWELL.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

TREVOR L. WILLIAMS, LL.M.

* Part of Year.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my fifth ANNUAL REPORT on the health and vital statistics of the Wrexham Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

The work of the Health Department increases year by year as parliament throws greater and more extended responsibilities upon local authorities.

Meat Inspection and Slum Clearance now occupy most of the time of our staff which has not been increased to meet the extra duties.

Fortunately, infectious diseases do not cause as much work as in the past, for Diphtheria has disappeared and Scarlet Fever has become very mild in its present form. During the spring and summer months, Measles appeared in epidemic form and seems to be the infection over which we have least control.

Although a drought was experienced in the summer months, our district was so well provided for that no water shortage was experienced, largely due to improvements in our water supplies in the past year or two.

The first official representations were submitted during the year in respect of properties at Rhos and Ponciau. This is the prelude to an all out attack on our slum property, which has been long overdue.

I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the help given me by Mr. Thomas and the Sanitary Inspectors who are working under great pressure.

I should also like to thank all the other Chief Officers for their help and co-operation.

In conclusion, I beg to tender my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and sympathetic consideration during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. KENRICK HUGHES,
Medical Officer of Health.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	.....	.....	.....	72,370
Population, R.G.'s Estimate, 1954, Mid-Annual	.....	.....	.....	62,320
Population, Density per acre	.....	.....	.....	0.86
Number of Inhabited Houses	.....	.....	.....	19,744
Number of Inhabited Council Houses	.....	.....	.....	5,544
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate, 1954—1955	.....	.....	.....	£820 8s. 6d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

Comparability Factor. 1.00 (Births). 1.07 (Deaths).

LIVE BIRTHS.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	465	402	867
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	19	10	29
Total				<u>484</u>	<u>412</u>	<u>896</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 population. Crude 14.38
Adjusted 14.38
England and Wales 15.9

STILL BIRTHS.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	8	21	29
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
Total				<u>9</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>30</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1000 Total Births 33.48
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Population 0.48
England and Wales 23.1

TOTAL BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL).				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	473	423	896
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	20	10	30
Total				<u>493</u>	<u>433</u>	<u>926</u>

DEATHS.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
				<u>450</u>	<u>376</u>	<u>826</u>

Death Rate per 1000 population. Crude 13.25
Adjusted 14.18
England and Wales 11.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY.				<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion				—	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY.				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	15	13	28
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
Total				<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>29</u>

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births	32.37
England and Wales	24.9
Male Legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 male legitimate births	32.26
Female Legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 female legitimate births	32.34
Male Illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 male illegitimate births	52.63
Female Illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 female illegitimate births	—
Total legitimate I.M.R. per 1000 legitimate births	32.29
Total illegitimate I.M.R. per 1000 illegitimate births	34.48

WREXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
1955.

TABLE 1.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Number of Houses 1955</i>	<i>Population (Estim.)</i>	<i>Density of Population per acre</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>
					£
Abenbury	1717	109	299	0.17	9,182
Allington	3578	464	1420	0.39	5,895
Bersham	1784	1404	4315	2.42	12,654
Bieston	1683	56	193	0.11	1,471
Broughton	1089	2153	6770	6.22	18,446
Brymbo	2543	1232	4133	1.63	11,399
Burton	2869	226	770	0.27	3,520
Cefn	1876	2158	6457	3.44	25,468
Erbistock	2919	131	453	0.16	1,750
Erddig	287	9	40	0.14	353
Esc. Above	3953	167	485	0.12	3,583
Esc. Below	1640	819	2665	1.63	10,943
Gresford	1099	574	1525	1.39	8,961
Gwersyllt	2103	1915	6138	2.92	18,651
Holt	2912	347	1088	0.37	3,504
Isycoed	3532	97	416	0.12	4,352
Llangollen R.....	9953	844	2579	0.26	10,353
Llantysilio	5163	196	590	0.11	2,050
Llay	2251	982	3478	1.55	13,778
Marchwiell	3389	248	619	0.18	3,873
Minera	1393	407	1196	0.86	4,153
Penycae	4694	738	2210	0.47	5,512
Rhos	1441	3357	10,902	7.57	31,054
Ruabon	5906	1018	3264	0.55	12,848
Sesswick	2596	93	315	0.12	2,192
Total	72,370	19,744	62,320	0.86	225,945

Product of a Penny Rate—1954/1955—£820/8/6d.

TABLE 2.

ANALYSIS OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Parish	Es- tim- ated Pop.	Births			Birth Rate per 1000 Pop.	Dths	Death Rate per 1000 Pop.	Dths un- der one year	Inft. Mort. Rate per 1000 births	Dths from Tu- ber- cul- osis
		M.	F.	Tot.						
Abenbury	299	2	.....	2	6.69	4	13.38	1	500.00	.....
Allington	1420	8	14	22	15.49	17	11.97	.....	.....	.....
Bersham	4315	59	40	99	22.94	53	12.28	2	20.2	.....
Bieston	193	1	1	2	10.36	1	5.18	.....	.....	.....
Broughton	6770	43	27	70	10.34	93	13.74	5	71.43	.....
Brymbo	4133	45	26	71	17.18	50	12.09	1	14.08	1
Burton	770	1	1	2	2.6	8	10.39	.....	.....	.....
Cefn	6457	46	43	89	38.78	92	14.25	5	56.18	4
Erbistock	453	2	.....	2	4.63	4	8.83	.....	.....	.....
Erddig	40	1	2	3	75.00	1	25.00	1	333.33	.....
Esc. Above	485	4	4	8	16.49	2	4.12	1	125.00	.....
Esc. Below	2665	20	25	45	16.88	36	13.51	2	44.44	1
Gresford	1525	16	17	33	21.64	29	19.02	.....	.....	1
Gwersyllt	6138	58	40	98	15.97	69	11.24	1	10.20	2
Holt	1088	8	13	21	19.30	16	14.70	2	95.24	.....
Isycoed	416	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4.81	.....	.....	.....
Llan. R.	2579	15	15	30	11.63	40	15.51	2	66.66	.....
Llantysilio	590	3	2	5	8.47	4	6.78	.....	.....	.....
Llay	3478	32	36	68	19.55	35	10.06	3	44.12	.....
Marchwiel	619	7	6	13	21.00	9	14.54	1	76.92	.....
Minera	1196	6	6	12	10.03	16	13.38	.....	.....	.....
Penycae	2210	21	8	29	13.12	27	12.22	.....	.....	2
Rhos	10,902	63	66	129	11.83	157	14.40	2	15.5	5
Ruabon	3264	21	20	41	12.56	58	17.77	.....	.....	1
Sesswick	315	2	.....	2	6.35	3	9.52	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL	62,320	484	412	896	14.38	826	13.25	29	32.37	17

TABLE 3.

BIRTHS.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Legitimate.</i>		<i>Illegitimate.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Abenbury	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Allington	7	14	1	.....	22
Bersham	55	40	4	.....	99
Bieston	1	1	.....	.....	2
Broughton	43	25	.....	2	70
Brymbo	43	26	2	.....	71
Burton	1	1	.....	.....	2
Cefn	44	42	2	1	89
Erbistock	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Erddig	1	2	.....	.....	3
Esc. Above	4	4	.....	.....	8
Esc. Below	19	24	1	1	45
Gresford	16	16	.....	1	33
Gwersyllt	55	40	3	.....	98
Holt	8	13	.....	.....	21
Isycoed .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Llangollen R.	15	14	.....	1	30
Llantysilio	3	2	.....	.....	5
Llay	30	36	2	.....	68
Marchwiel	7	6	.....	.....	13
Minera	5	6	1	.....	12
Penycae	21	7	.....	1	29
Rhos	60	65	3	1	129
Ruabon	21	18	.....	2	41
Sesswick	2	.....	.....	.....	2
TOTAL	465	402	19	10	896

TABLE 4.

DEATHS.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>		<i>Deaths under One year of age.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Abenbury	2	1	1	.....	4
Allington	11	6	.....	.....	17
Bersham	30	21	1	1	53
Bieston	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Broughton	51	37	3	2	93
Brymbo	23	26	.....	1	50
Burton	5	3	.....	.....	8
Cefn	35	52	3	2	92
Erbistock	3	1	.....	.....	4
Erddig .....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Esc. Above	1	.....	1	.....	2
Esc. Below	19	15	1	1	36
Gresford	16	13	.....	.....	29
Gwersyllt	42	26	1	.....	69
Holt	8	6	.....	2	16
Isycoed	1	1	.....	.....	2
Llan. Rural	19	19	2	.....	40
Llantysilio .....	.....	4	.....	.....	4
Llay	14	18	1	2	35
Marchwiell	6	2	.....	1	9
Minera	7	9	.....	.....	16
Penycae	17	10	.....	.....	27
Rhos	89	66	1	1	157
Ruabon	32	26	.....	.....	58
Sesswick	2	1	.....	.....	3
TOTAL	434	363	16	13	826

THE POPULATION OF THE RURAL DISTRICT.

The estimated population of the district for 1955 is 62,320 as compared to 62,460, thus we find there has been a slight fall during the year, although births exceeded deaths.

COMPARABILITY FACTORS.

These figures remain the same as for 1954 and enable the crude birth rate and crude death rate to be adjusted for comparison with other districts; the factor for births being 1.00 while that for deaths is 1.07.

These factors make allowance for age and sex distribution which vary according to the nature of the population of any given place.

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births registered during the year was 896 as compared to 1014 in 1954. This shows a drop of 118 in the number of births which was unexpected as during 1954 the number of births had shown a slight rise on the previous year and it was hoped that this upward trend would continue in 1955. However, the fates decreed otherwise, although the rising cost of living and environmental conditions may have had an adverse effect.

There were 484 boys and 412 girls born, giving the boys a majority of 72. Of these births, 29 were illegitimate, including 19 boys and 10 girls.

Provision is made for the unmarried mother and child at Bersham Hall which serves the North Wales Counties in this respect.

BIRTH RATE.

The birth rate for 1955 was 14.38 as compared to 16.23 in 1954. The birth rate for England and Wales is 15.0. It is, therefore, to be regretted that for the first time on record our birth rate has fallen below that of England and Wales as a whole.

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of still births in 1955 was 30 as compared to 27 in 1954. This shows an upward trend and it is true to say that as many infants have been lost from this cause as from the causes of infant deaths. To reduce this, every expectant mother should attend an ante-natal clinic for supervision up to the date of confinement. Some mothers neglect this precaution which is vital both for their own and their infants' safety.

STILL BIRTH RATE.

The still birth rate per 1000 of the population is 0.48 as compared to 0.43 in 1954. The still birth rate per 1000 births (live and still) is 33.48 as compared to 25.94 in 1954. The still birth rate for England and Wales is 23.1.

DEATHS.

There were 826 deaths (450 males and 376 females) registered in 1955 as compared to 768 in 1954, showing an increase of 58.

We find that the number of deaths is increasing year by year, for there were 150 more this year than 4 years ago. The chief causes of this increase are diseases of the heart and circulation with 390 and cancer with 147 deaths.

It is somewhat remarkable that deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus affected men only in 1955, although women of all ages have taken up the noxious habit of smoking to as great an extent as men. If there is any truth in the theory that smoking predisposes to cancer of these organs, we should in due course find as many cases among women as men. It would appear that the general public do not take the relationship between cancer and smoking seriously, for they now jocularly use the expression "Have a cancer stick" when offering a cigarette, instead of cutting down on cigarette smoking.

TABLE 5.
DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT DISEASES.

		<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Lung and Bronchus	.....	22	.....	22
Breast and Uterus	.....	.....	19	19
Stomach	.....	22	18	40
Others	.....	33	33	66

DEATH RATE.

The total adjusted death rate was 14.18 as compared to 13.12 in 1954. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.7.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of infants who died before attaining the age of 12 months was 29 as compared to 40 in 1954. This is a great improvement but we must bear in mind that the total number of births was considerably less.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

The infantile mortality rate was 32.37 per 1000 live births as compared to 39.45 in 1954. The infant death rate for England and Wales is 24.9 and is far below ours.

However, a highly industrial district such as ours, with 3000 condemned houses, many of which are overcrowded, can hardly expect to rear young children as easily as districts where housing conditions are much better.

TABLE 6.

**BIRTHS AT TREVALYN MATERNITY HOSPITAL
DURING 1955.**

Parishes	Total R.D. Births	Births at Trevalyn						Total
		Males		Females		Total		
		Legit.	Illegit.	Legit.	Illegit.	Legit.	Illegit.	
Abenbury	2	3		3		6		6
Allington	22	7		10		17		17
Bersham	99	21	1	16		37	1	38
Bieston	2			1		1		1
Broughton	70	21		14		35		35
Brymbo	71	18		12		30		30
Burton	2	2		1		3		3
Cefn	89	12		13		25		25
Erbistock	2			1		1		1
Erddig	3			1		1		1
Esc. Above.....	8	1				1		1
Esc. Below	45	9	1	12		21	1	22
Gresford	33	13	1	10		23	1	24
Gwersyllt	98	29	1	18		47	1	48
Holt	21	6	1	8		14	1	15
Isycoed								
Llangollen R.	30	1		5		6		6
Llantysilio	5	1				1		1
Llay	68	19		28	1	47	1	48
Marchwiel	13	1		4		5		5
Minera	12	3		3		6		6
Penycae	29	11		1		12		12
Rhos	129	27	2	22		49	2	51
Ruabon	41	10	1	9		19	1	20
Sesswick	2							
Total ..	826	215	8	192	1	407	9	416
Outward transferable Births		193	17	171	11	364	28	392
Grand Total	896	408	25	363	12	771	37	808

Inward Transferable Births—251.

TABLE 7.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Cause of Death.	All Ages.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	13	2	15
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	1	2
3. Syphilitic disease	1	.....	1
4. Diphtheria .....	.....	.....	.....
5. Whooping Cough .....	.....	.....	.....
6. Meningococcal infections .....	.....	.....	.....
7. Acute poliomyelitis .....	.....	.....	.....
8. Measles .....	.....	.....	.....
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	1	3
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	22	18	40
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	22	.....	22
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	.....	12	12
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	.....	7	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	33	33	66
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	.....	1
16. Diabetes	1	4	5
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	49	65	114
18. Coronary disease, angina	73	28	101
19. Hypertension with heart disease	11	8	19
20. Other heart disease	58	83	141
21. Other circulatory diseases	6	9	15
22. Influenza	3	6	9
23. Pneumonia	23	17	40
24. Bronchitis	30	11	41
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	7	3	10
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	9	2	11
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	6	8
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	4	6	10
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	11	.....	11
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	.....	.....	.....
31. Congenital malformations	4	6	10
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	38	41	79
33. Motor vehicle accidents	8	.....	8
34. All other accidents	13	6	19
35. Suicide	4	1	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	.....	1
TOTAL	450	376	826

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

It would appear that there is considerable laxity in the notification of infectious diseases. This may be due to the fact that some parents do not bother to call in a doctor or to failure of the doctor to notify.

According to the Act, every practitioner called in to visit a patient shall, as soon as he becomes aware that the patient is suffering from a notifiable infectious disease, send a notification to the Medical Officer of Health. This should be done immediately and is particularly important in cases of Food Poisoning if there is to be any hope of tracing the infected food and so preventing a spread of the outbreak.

The only epidemic to affect the district was one of Measles which was quite severe and lasted through the spring months but subsided in August.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 19 cases of Scarlet Fever notified as compared to 19 in 1954. This disease has become very mild in character and it was only necessary for two to go to hospital.

POLIOMYELITIS.

Only one case was notified. This was a young man who had the paralytic form of the disease and was removed to hospital.

WHOOPING COUGH.

There were 35 cases of Whooping Cough notified as compared to 50 in 1954. This shows a gradual fall during the last two years and may be due to the increase in the number of children who have been immunised against this disease.

MEASLES.

There was an epidemic of Measles in 1955, the total notifications being 772 as compared to 83 in 1954. There was also an epidemic in 1953 when 866 cases were notified.

The areas chiefly affected were Brymbo, Broughton, Bersham and Gwersyllt, whereas in 1953 the Rhos area was most severely hit.

Only two cases were removed to hospital.

ERYSIPELAS.

3 cases were notified during the year as compared to 9 in 1954.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS.

4 cases were notified and all were admitted to hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

2 cases were notified as compared to 4 in 1954.

PNEUMONIA.

There were 24 cases of pneumonia notified as compared to 8 in 1954.

FOOD POISONING.

There were 4 cases of food poisoning notified as compared to 8 cases in 1954. It was not possible to ascertain the cause in any of these cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

78 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified as compared to 99 in 1954. Although this shows an improvement on 1954, it is still a higher figure than that for 1953, when there were 75 cases. This shows that the methods of preventing tuberculosis infection are not yet meeting with success. This is due to the fact that all the infectious T.B. cases are not discovered and that those who are known are not trained to act in public as they would in sanatoria, so that indiscriminate expectorating in public places spreads the disease. It is, therefore, vital to trace all cases to their source and to train all infectious cases to use sputum bottles and to take every precaution.

There were 74 pulmonary cases and 4 non-pulmonary cases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN COUNCIL HOUSES.

The total number of infectious diseases was 943 of which 275 occurred in Council Houses. Measles cases accounted for the majority, numbering 213.

TABLE 8.

INCIDENCE OF ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES ACCORDING TO PARISHES.

Parish	Removed to Hospital													Total	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Wh. Cough	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Food Poisoning	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Mening. Infection	Pneumonia	Pulm. T.B.	Non-Pulm. T.B.	Polionmyelitis	Total	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Wh. Cough	Mening. Infection	Pneumonia	Pulm. T.B.	Polionmyelitis	Total	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Wh. Cough	Mening. Infection	Pneumonia	Pulm. T.B.	Polionmyelitis	Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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TABLE 9.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases ad- mitted to Isolation H.</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	19	2	.....
Measles	772	2	.....
Whooping Cough	35	4	.....
Erysipelas	3	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	.....	.....
Food Poisoning	4	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	.....	.....
Meningococcal Infection	4	4	.....
Pneumonia	24	1	40
Pulmonary T.B.	74	1	15
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	4	.....	2
Poliomyelitis	1	1	.....
Totals	943	15	57

TABLE 10.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
ACCORDING TO AGES.

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Un- der 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>5 to 9</i>	<i>10 to 14</i>	<i>15 to 24</i>	<i>25 +</i>	<i>Age un- known</i>	<i>Tot.</i>
Scarlet Fever .....	.....	1	5	11	1	1	.....	.....	19
Measles	18	156	225	344	12	2	1	14	772
Whooping Cough	2	10	7	15	.....	.....	1	.....	35
Erysipelas .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	3
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	2
Food Poisoning .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	4
Oph. Neonatorum	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Meningococcal Inf.	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	4
Pneumonia	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1	20	1	24
Pulmonary T.B. ....	.....	.....	1	3	5	14	50	1	74
Non-Pulmonary T.B. ....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1	1	4
Poliomyelitis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Totals	24	168	238	375	19	22	80	17	943

TABLE 11.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN COUNCIL HOUSES.

<i>Parishes</i>	<i>Sc. Fever</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Wh. Cough</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Puer. Pyr.</i>	<i>Menin. Infection</i>	<i>Poliom. velitis</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>T. B.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rem. to Hos.</i>				
											<i>Wh. Cough</i>	<i>Menin. Infect.</i>	<i>Polio</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Total</i>
Abenbury ..			1							1					
Allington ..		5	1					1		7	1			1	2
Bersham ..		25						1		26					
Bieston ..															
Broughton ..		23		1				1	2	27					
Brymbo ..		49		1		1				51		1			1
Burton ..															
Cefn ..		32	1						7	40					
Erbistock ..															
Erddig ..															
Esclusham Above															
Esclusham Below		1				1			5	7		1			1
Gresford ..		1						1	1	2					
Gwersyllt ..	2	34	3			1		2	2	44		1			1
Helt ..	1									1					
Isycoed ..															
Llangollen Rural		6					1	1		8			1		1
Llantysilio ..															
Llay ..	1	1								2					
Marchwiell ..		5								5					
Minera ..		6								6					
Penycae ..	2	8	3						3	16	1				1
Rhos ..	1	17			1			2	3	24					
Ruabon ..	1		7							8					
Sesswick ..															
Total ..	8	213	16	2	1	3	1	8	23	275	2	3	1	1	7

TABLE 12.

**TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AND TOTAL DEATHS
FROM TUBERCULOSIS ACCORDING TO AGES.**

Age Groups	NEW CASES				Tot.	TOTAL DEATHS				Tot.
	Pulm.		N-Pulm.			Pulm.		N-Pulm.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year										
1—4	1				1					
5—9	1	2	1		4					
10—14	4	1	1		6					
15—19	2	6			8		1			1
20—24	2	4			6					
25—34	6	9			15				1	1
35—44	6	4			10	1	1			2
45—54	10	2		1	13	2				2
55—64	5	2			7	2				2
65 and over	5	1			6	7		1		8
Age unknown	1		1		2	1				1
Totals	43	31	3	1	78	13	2	1	1	17

**IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING
COUGH.**

The aim of the campaign against Diphtheria is to raise the level of children immunised above 75 per cent which is considered to be the safety margin in order to prevent further outbreaks of this disease. This level has not yet been achieved in this district so that it is imperative to carry on the campaign to persuade reluctant parents to have their children protected.

The number of children immunised during 1955 is given in the table and is much the same as for 1954.

TABLE 13.

IMMUNISATION.

Number of Children immunised during the Quarter.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

	0—1 yr.	1—5 yrs.	5—14 yrs.
Primary Doses	8	42	57
Re-inforcings	3	235	241

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough
Immunisation, Combined.

	0—1 yr.	1—5 yrs.
	318	204

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Nil.

VACCINATION.

Vaccination is not now compulsory and consequently the number of children vaccinated each year remains very small in comparison to the number of births.

The mothers of today have not seen or heard of Smallpox, consequently they have not the same dread of this disease as did our grandparents who were well acquainted with its frightful results and disfiguring effects. The "pock marked face" is rarely seen today but was common in the last century. Compulsory vaccination at that time conquered this disease, but we may lose this victory by neglecting our defences which are complete in vaccination.

Only 140 children under 1 year of age received primary vaccinations, which is much the same as last year. It can be readily seen that this gap in our defences leaves the community wide open to attack.

TABLE 14.

VACCINATION.

PRIMARY VACCINATIONS:

<i>Under 1 year.</i>	<i>1 year.</i>	<i>2—4 years.</i>	<i>5—14 years.</i>	<i>15 plus.</i>
140	6	9	8	22

RE VACCINATIONS:

<i>Under 1 year.</i>	<i>1 year.</i>	<i>2—4 years.</i>	<i>5—14 years.</i>	<i>15 plus.</i>
—	—	—	1	23

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The visits of the Mass Radiography Service are organised under the direction of the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council with very little liaison with the District Medical Officer of Health, consequently the attendances are not as high as they ought to be.

The service visited Cefn and Ruabon during 1955. In Cefn, 618 persons were X-rayed out of a population of 6477, which is a small proportion. In Ruabon 601 were X-rayed out of a population of 3269, giving a somewhat higher proportion. No definite cases of Tuberculosis were discovered.

Details of the survey are given in the table.

TABLE 15.

DETAILS OF MASS RADIOGRAPHIC SURVEY CARRIED OUT AMONGST
THE GENERAL POPULATION AND SCHOOLCHILDREN AT CEFN MAWR.

ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>Under 15</i>		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—59		60 and over		<i>Totals</i>	
		<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
Total number examined	618	67	90	28	54	35	73	24	67	46	80	33	21	233	385
Number found to be abnormal	36	..	4	3	1	1	3	2	3	7	3	8	1	21	15
Classification of abnormal cases—															
(a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..														
(b) Requiring further observation	4				1		1		1	1				1	3
(c) Other abnormalities of the chest	32		4	3		1	2	2	2	6	3	8	1	20	12

TABLE 16

DETAILS OF MASS RADIOGRAPHIC SURVEY CARRIED OUT AMONGST
THE GENERAL POPULATION AND SCHOOLCHILDREN AT RUABON.

ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>Under 15</i>		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—59		60 and over		<i>Totals</i>	
		<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
Total number examined	601	60	50	66	82	18	71	25	49	38	79	30	33	237	364
Number found to be abnormal	22	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	1	4	5	5	4	.....	12	10
Classification of abnormal cases—															
(a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(b) Requiring further observa- tion	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	.....
(c) Other abnormalities of the chest	20	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	1	4	5	5	2	.....	10	10

TABLE 17.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital	.....	.....	.....	.....	201 beds.
(b) Maelor General Hospital—					
Emergency Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	206 beds.
Isolation Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	110 beds.

2. MATERNITY CASES.

Trevalyn Manor Maternity Hospital	.....	45 beds.
Maelor General Hospital (Maternity Unit).	.....	21 beds.
Cottage Hospital, Llangollen	.....	6 beds.
Cottage Hospital, Chirk	.....	8 beds.

3. ORTHOPAEDIC.

Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen.

CLINICS.

1. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

These are established in the following areas :—Rhos, Llay, Southsea, Brymbo, Rhostyllen, Coedpoeth, Broughton, Cefn, Rossett, Gresford, Vroncysyllte, Johnstown, Holt, Ruabon and Rhosrobin.

2. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS.

The diagnosis and after-care treatment of Orthopaedic Cases is carried out at the War Memorial Hospital, Wrexham, supplemented by institutional treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen. A Clinic is also held at Cefn.

NURSING SERVICES.

1. GENERAL AND MIDWIFERY.

District Nurse Midwives and District Nurses for the home visiting of the sick and for maternity cases are provided in the following areas :—

Brynteg	1	Holt	1
Brymbo	1	Gwersyllt	2
Broughton	1	Llay	2
Bwlchgwyn	1	Rhos	3
Cefn	2	Rhostyllen	1
Gresford	1	Ruabon	1
Garth	1		

2. HEALTH VISITORS.

There are seven Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses) employed in the rural district on Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical work.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

<i>No. of Cases.</i>		
General	.....	143
Tuberculosis	.....	9
Midwifery	.....	8

No. of Domestic Helps employed.
92

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. Section 47.

This Act gives power to a District Council to remove to a Hospital or Home, persons who are aged and infirm found to be living alone in insanitary conditions and unable to care for themselves by reason of illhealth or having no other persons willing or able to look after them at home.

Owing to the fact that people are living longer because of the advance in medical knowledge and skill in curing disease, more of these cases are reported to me each year. The question at once arises as to whether one is justified in depriving people of their liberty in their own interest. The decision has to be made and forcible measures are only taken as a last resort, and with the consent of the relatives and co-operation of the family doctor.

During 1955, one female, aged 87 years, was moved to a Home for the Aged as she was unable to care for herself and had no one else to care for her.

RAINFALL.

We have been supplied with the following rainfall figures taken at Packsaddle by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company and I am greatly indebted to them for supplying these figures each year.

The total rainfall for the year was 28.96, which was much less than we had in 1954, when there was a rainfall of 41.50 inches. We had a remarkably dry July and August, so that most people enjoyed good holiday weather. The wettest months were May and December, as shown in the table.

TABLE 18.**RAINFALL FIGURES TAKEN AT PACKSADDLE,
FOR THE YEAR 1954.**

<i>Month.</i>	<i>Rainfall.</i>
January	2.36
February	2.53
March	2.68
April	1.10
May	4.06
June	3.68
July	.27
August	.94
September	2.11
October	2.19
November	2.65
December	4.39
Total	<hr/> 28.96 <hr/>

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The air we breathe should be pure and free from pollution if we are to remain healthy.

The domestic chimney and internal combustion engine are more to blame than our large works which are few in comparison.

We have become more than ever conscious of the necessity to discover the answer to atmospheric pollution. It is obvious that everyone living in or near a large town is directly connected with the evils of smoke pollution and should make every effort to contribute to the great effort being made to make the air we breathe as free from contamination as possible by burning a smokeless fuel or installing more modern appliances.

Local Authorities are aware of the seriousness of the problem and an increasing number are applying for powers to establish "smokeless zones." In order to do this, the local authority has to apply to the Ministry of Health for its approval and to Parliament for the necessary powers.

Once such a zone is established, every means of burning fuel in that area has to be approved by the local authority before it can be installed, whether it be required for private house or factory. Approval is only given to the installation of domestic grates burning smokeless fuels.

Let us hope the day is not far distant when we shall have a "smokeless zone" in the Wrexham area, for it is certainly one of the blackest spots in the country.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

During the year work has continued on the Burton-Lavister Sewerage Scheme and when this is completed practically all the populous areas of our district will have been sewered.

HOUSING.

The programme of Council House building has continued unabated so that the total has now reached 5544.

During the year 365 Council houses of various types were built, while 58 private houses were erected.

The policy of the Council of buying old properties which are worth repairing and reconditioning is very welcome and will make the rehousing of problem families easier to deal with. This policy could be the saving of a considerable number of properties now falling into disrepair owing to the inability or neglect of the owners to carry out repairs. I hope it will be pursued vigourously, for as well as saving property it will save money which would have to be spent on building new houses.

Certain parishes still have large "waiting lists," some of which, such as Gwersyllt and Llay, have increased in the last few years and constitute a grave problem to solve.

Although most of the building of houses has been confined to the larger industrial parishes, their needs are still greater than the rural areas.

Taking into consideration the Slum Clearance programme, the Council will have to deal with 5000 cases in the next 5 years.

TABLE 19.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 1954.5

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Total No. of Council Houses at 31.12.55.</i>	<i>Council Houses erected in 1955.</i>	<i>Private Houses completed in 1955.</i>	<i>Council Houses in course of erection 31.12.55.</i>
Abenbury	2	.....	.....	.....
Allington	155	25	2	10
Bersham	305	22	3	22
Bieston	4	.....	.....	.....
Broughton	624	56	3	32
Brymbo	312	2	1	30
Burton	10	.....	.....	.....
Cefn	671	18	5	50
Erbistock	18	.....	.....	.....
Esc. Above .....	.....	.....	1	.....
Esc. Below	333	33	4	22
Gresford	129	32	19	.....
Gwersyllt	802	53	3	73
Holt	68	.....	2	.....
Isycoed	12	.....	.....	.....
Llan. Rural	190	.....	.....	.....
Llay	346	14	1	.....
Marchwiell	69	9	.....	34
Minera	74	.....	2	.....
Penycæ	259	60	4	92
Rhos	831	.....	6	.....
Ruabon	320	41	1	18
Sesswick	10	.....	1	.....
	<u>5544</u>	<u>365</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>383</u>

SLUM CLEARANCE.

As a result of a survey in 1947, there were found to be 2646 Grade 4 houses in the district. It was also found that 2002 houses were occupied by more than one family, 302 of which were Grade 4 houses.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, has two main objects: firstly, to deal with the slum conditions by demolition and clearance, and secondly, to encourage the repair and improvement of houses that are so structurally sound and suitably situated as to lend themselves to the standard laid down in the Act, which now gives a basis on which to work, and refers to

- (a) repair.
- (b) stability.
- (c) freedom from damp.
- (d) natural lighting.
- (e) ventilation.
- (f) water supply.
- (g) drainage and sanitary conveniences.
- (h) facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and for disposal of waste water.

A house is deemed unfit if it is so far defective in one or more of these requirements that it is not reasonably suitable for occupation in that condition.

The houses in the above survey all fail by these standards and are therefore unfit for human habitation.

WATER SUPPLY.

During 1955 there was a very dry summer, for the rainfall in July and August was negligible. In spite of this the water supplies of our district did not fail and there was no great restriction on the use of water.

Since the take-over by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company the Cefn district has enjoyed a much improved supply.

The Llantysilio Water Scheme has made good progress and this locality will soon enjoy the benefits of a public water supply.

The Garth and Froncysyllte Undertakings still remain to be dealt with for they are subject to periodical surface contamination, shown by the bacteriological results of the samples taken at regular intervals and demonstrate that some form of treatment is desirable before public consumption.

The Brymbo Water Undertaking was acquired by the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company on 1st July, 1955. This supply has been the subject of complaints regarding the quantity and quality. We can now look forward to these shortcomings being made good.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the ANNUAL REPORT for 1955.

The Report presents details of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors' Department.

During the year, Housing, Meat and Food Inspection have made heavy demands on the Department and the present trend of legislation suggests that these important aspects of Public Health will demand still more time in the future. With the present staff it will become increasingly difficult to cope with the varied duties requiring attention.

I am indebted to the Chairman and Members for their assistance and encouragement during the year.

I would also thank the Medical Officer of Health, and again acknowledge the loyal support received from all members of the staff.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. THOMAS,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following Table gives a detailed list of the actual work done by the Sanitary Inspectors in the Rural District during the year.

TABLE 20.

HOUSING.	<i>Number.</i>
No. of houses re-roofed	7
No. of houses repaired—roofs, walls, etc.	63
No. of houses otherwise treated to prevent dampness	25
No. of houses in which defective floors were renewed	14
No. of houses provided with new pavements in back yards ..	—
No. of houses in which old pavements were repaired	3
No. of houses provided with baths	1
No. of houses provided with H. & C water	2
No. of new kitchen grates and washing boilers provided	19
No. of visits to applicants for Council Houses	3312
Abatement of overcrowding	226
Nuisances abated (drains)	82

DRAINAGE.

No. of new cesspools constructed	—
No. of new septic tanks constructed	6
No. of kitchen sinks provided	7
No. of new drains laid to old premises	21
No. of drains repaired	17
No. of house drains disconnected from road drains	—
No. of new Inspection Chambers	15
No. of Inspection Chambers repaired	1

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

No. of new water closets provided	21
No. of old water closets furnished with flushing cisterns	23
No. of old water closets repaired	52
No. of privies converted into water closets	4
No. of new earth closets and privies	—
No. of privies repaired	—
No. of portable ashbins provided	732
No. of urinals repaired	1

WATER SUPPLY.

No. of old premises supplied	8
No. of service pipes repaired	7

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No. of workshops repaired	—
No. of workshops cleansed on notice	1
No. of new sanitary conveniences provided or improved	1
No. of visits and inspections	25
No. of visits to bakehouses	52
No. of bakehouses improved	1

MILK REGULATIONS, 1949-- 1954.

No. of visits to premises	57
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LICENSED PREMISES.

No. of visits to Licensed Premises	57
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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

No. of visits to Food Preparation Rooms	209
No. of Ice Cream samples taken	15
No. of visits to Slaughter Houses	....	.....	1748
No. of visits to Butchers shops and stalls	.....	.....	11
No. of visits to Knackers Yards	.....	.....	39

CLERICAL WORK.

No. of Intimatory Notices issued	.....	....	.....	1394
No. of Intimatory Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	1022
No. of Statutory Notices issued	.....	.....	.....	58
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	.....	.....	.....	8
Total No. of visits and inspections	.....	.....	.....	20,262

HOUSING.

Steady progress has been maintained in repairing old dwelling houses, and many owners have, on being interviewed, co-operated and carried out the necessary repairs without the service of formal notices.

There are, however, a large number of houses which require urgent attention if they are to be preserved. No repairs have been carried out for many years and the continual rising cost of repairs and the fixed low rent makes it difficult for owners to maintain their property in a reasonable condition. Such houses deteriorate rapidly and cause hardship and suffering to the occupants. Some steps must be adopted to prevent such houses becoming unfit for habitation and thereby placing an unnecessary burden on the Council to provide alternative accommodation.

The Improvement Grants made by the Council under the Housing Act has made possible the provision of modern amenities to older dwelling houses, and also obtaining many repairs, bringing the property to a good standard.

Grants have been made to the value of £26,132 in respect of 135 houses.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.

Under the provision of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, 6 applications from tenants were considered and in 3 cases a Certificate of Disrepair was granted in respect of the premises.

In one case the necessary repairs were carried out by the owner and the certificate was revoked.

OVERCROWDING.

Although no actual figures are available relating to the extent of overcrowding in the Council's area it is safe to assume that it has been relieved to a considerable extent.

During 1955, 501 families were rehoused of which 226 families comprising 1046 persons were living under overcrowded conditions.

COUNCIL HOUSE TENANCIES.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 3,312 visits investigating the circumstances and housing conditions of applicants for Council Houses. The information obtained is collated and presented to the Housing (Selection of Tenants) Sub-Committee and provides valuable information and assists the Committee in their final allocation of houses.

WATER SUPPLY.

31 samples of water supplied by the various Statutory Water Undertakers were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Birkenhead.

16 samples have also been submitted for bacteriological examination from private sources such as farms, where a supply of water has been provided in pipes to the farm houses and buildings.

The results of all samples are given in the following Table.

TABLE 21. WATER SUPPLY.

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Wrexham & East Denbighshire Water Company. (Brymbo Supply).					
1. Tanyfron (26-4-55)	9				
2. Tanyfron (12-7-55)	9				Satisfactory.
3. Bwlchgwyn (26-7-55)	8	4			Satisfactory.
Wrexham & East Denbighshire Water Company. (Cefn Supply).					
1. Trevor (29-3-55)	2				Please repeat.
2. Trevor (26-4-55)	15	2			Satisfactory.
3. Trevor (16-6-55)	14	2			Satisfactory.
4. Trevor (19-7-55)	8				Please repeat.
5. Trevor (9-8-55)	14	2			Satisfactory.
6. Trevor (23-8-55)	7				Please repeat.
7. Trevor (15-9-55)	48	17	3		Satisfactory.
					Unsatisfactory.

TABLE 21. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken.</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform, Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable Coli Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
8. Trevor (25-10-55)	7	2	.....	.....	Please repeat.
9. Acrefair (8-12-55)	7	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
Wrexham & East Denbighshire Water Company. (Ruabon Supply).					
1. Penrycae (23-8-55)	11	13	.....	...	Please repeat.
2. Ponciau (24-5-55)	4	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
3. Penrycae (12-7-55)	8	8	.....	.....	Please repeat.
4. Penrycae (9-8-55)	9	2	.....	.....	Please repeat.
Wrexham & East Denbighshire Water Company. (Wrexham Supply).					
1. Llay (24-5-55)			.....	.....	Satisfactory.
2. Southsea (24-5-55)	1	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
3. New Broughton (12-7-55)	4	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
4. Talwrn, Pickhill (26-7-55)	3	.....	.....	.....	Satisfactory.

TABLE 21. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken.</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Wrexham Rural District Council Water Supplies. Garth Water Supply.					
1. Garth (29-3-55)	4				Satisfactory.
2. Garth (26-4-55)	13				Satisfactory.
3. Garth (16-6-55)	9				Satisfactory.
4. Garth (15-9-55)	13	3	2		Unsatisfactory.
5. Garth (25-10-55)	352				
Pentredwr Supply.					
1. Pentredwr (16-6-55)	4				
Sun Bank Supply.					
1. Sun Bank (26-4-55)	12				Satisfactory.
2. Sun Bank (16-6-55)	23	13	8		Unsatisfactory.
3. Sun Bank (15-9-55)	10	3			Please repeat.

TABLE 21. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

Nature of Sample and where taken.	Plate Count Yeastel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.	Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.	Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.	Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.	Remarks.
Vron Supply.					
1. Vron (29-3-55)	21	2			
2 Vron (15-9-55)	22	50	3		B. coli communis present. Unsatisfactory.
Miscellaneous Samples.					
1 Land spring water. Glyndyfrdwy (29-3-55)	12				Satisfactory.
2. Land spring water. Llay (26-4-55)	13	2			Satisfactory.
3. Artesian well water from tap. Burton (24-5-55)	11				Satisfactory.
4. Deep well water from tap. Rhos (12-7-55)	3	8	2		Unsatisfactory.
5. Spring water. Llantysilio (26-7-55)	14	180 +	180 +		Unsatisfactory.
6. Direct from well. Sesswick (26-7-55)	32	50	35		Unsatisfactory.
7. Spring water. Llantysilio (9-8-55)	Uncountable	180 +	180 +		Unsatisfactory.

TABLE 21. WATER SUPPLY—(continued)

<i>Nature of Sample and where taken.</i>	<i>Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C Aerobically per ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days 37°C per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Probable No. Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Coli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
8. Deep well water from pump. Penycae (23-8-55)	Uncountable	180 +	180 +	.....	Unsatisfactory.
9. Deep well water. Minera (23-8-55)	115	180 +	180 +	.....	Unsatisfactory.
10. Spring water. Rhewl (23-8-55)	68	17	11	.....	Unsatisfactory.
Land					
11. Spring water from earth- enware pipe in bank. Minera (23-8-55)	47	50	50	.....	Unsatisfactory.
12. Land spring water. Wern, Wrexham (15-9-55)	Uncountable	180 +	50	.....	B. lactis aerogenes isolated. Unsatisfactory.
13. Springwater. Garth (20-9-55)	6	1	.....	.....	Satisfactory.
14. Spring water. Acrefair (25-10-55)	46	8	5	.....	Unsatisfactory.
15. Water from lake. Gresford (25-10-55)	264	180 +	160	.....
16. Spring water from tank overflow. Glyndyfrdwy (8-12-55)	3	2	.....	.....

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are 12 licenced private slaughter houses in the Council's area. Slaughtering is carried on at these premises throughout the week.

Meat Inspection is a vital public health service and has been given priority over other duties to ensure that all animals slaughtered and intended for human consumption were examined. This has necessitated all the Sanitary Inspectors having to devote part of each day and a considerable amount of overtime in order to accomplish this service.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered for human consumption during the year 1955.

TABLE 22.

<i>Year 1955</i>	<i>Cattle ex- clud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	1163	327	130	11,711	25,831	39,162
Number inspected ...	1163	327	130	11,711	25,831	39,162
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcasses condemned	10	19	7	32	321	389
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	97	36		392	1260	1785
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	9.2	16.8	5.4	3.6	6.1	4.5
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcasses condemned	10	12	2		25	49
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12	6			674	692
Percentage of the number- inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.9	5.5	1.5		2.7	1.9
Cysticercosis.						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned						
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration						
Generalised and totally condemned						

17 Cattle were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order 1950 and 1 Cow under the Tuberculosis Order 1938.

The meat condemned is collected from the slaughter houses for treatment and disposal for purposes other than human consumption.

Objection is made by some dealers to the staining of the meat intended for animal feeding. There is a definite need for enforcing the staining of condemned meat in order to eliminate the possibility of it being offered for sale to the public except for dog meat.

The total weight of carcase meat condemned as being unfit for human consumption was **28 tons, 6 cwts., 1 qtr.**

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

The following is a list of foods which have been examined at local shops and found to be unfit for human consumption.

TABLE 23.

Meat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	257 tins.
Meat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76 lbs.
Fish	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28 tins.
Salmon Paste	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 tin.
Carrots	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1624 lbs.
Carrots	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12 tins.
Beans	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27 tins.
Peas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	63 tins.
Soup	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14 tins.
Tomatoes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	84 tins.
Spaghetti	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 tin.
Cheese	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28 lbs.
Coconut	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 pkts.
Chocolate Raisins	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37 pkts.
Coffee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 tins.
Cream	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8 tins.
Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	118 tins.
Fruit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	304 tins.
Syrup	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 tins.

FOOD PREMISES.

There are 80 registered premises where food is prepared for human consumption. The premises are regularly inspected and a great improvement has been observed in the preparation and storage of food. Many of the premises have been provided with refrigerated display counters.

ICE CREAM.

The number of licences granted during the year for the Sale of Ice Cream is 6, and 3 were discontinued, making the total

number now registered to 168. All the persons licenced obtain their supplies from the large manufacturers.

FOOD SAMPLING.

The Denbighshire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority, and the following report has been received from the Food and Drugs Inspector.

TABLE 24.

Particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, in the Wrexham Rural District, during the year ended 31st December, 1955.

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not genuine or sub- standard</i>
Milk	120	109	11
Butter	5	5	.....
Margarine	1	1	.....
Lard	1	1	.....
Flour	1	1	.....
Baking Powder	1		1
Cakes	1	1	.....
Cake Mixture	1	1	.....
Jam	4	4	.....
Marmalade	1	1	.....
Sweets	3	3	.....
Condensed Milk.....	1	1	.....
Blanc Mange			
Powder	1	1	.....
Ice Cream	5	5	.....
Fresh Cream	2	2	.....
Meat Paste	1	1	.....
Sausages	5	5	.....
Suet	1	1	.....
Vinegar	1	.....	1
Non-Brewed			
Condiment	1	1	.....
Salad Cream	1	1	.....
Mustard	1	1	.....
Dried Mint	1	1	.....
Rice	1	1	.....
Tea	1	1	.....
Cocoa	1	1	.....
Soft Drink	2	2	.....
Beer	3	3	.....
Whiskey	1	1	.....
Gin	1	1	.....
Arrowroot	1	1	.....
Saccharin	1	1	.....
Gripe Mixture	1	1	.....
Aspirin	1	1	.....
Sweet Spirit of			
Nitro	1	.....	1
Camphorated Oil	1	1	.....
Totals	<u>176</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>14</u>

As will be observed from the above Table, 11 samples of milk were certified by the Public Analyst as being "Not Genuine or Sub-standard" by reason of a deficiency in fat or in solids-not-fat. In most instances the deficiencies were slight and the matter was dealt with by means of cautions and advice. In no instance was the deficiency sufficiently serious to warrant the institution of legal proceedings and the Analyst found no extraneous water in any of the milk samples taken in your area.

In addition to the 120 milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst during the year, 31 samples of milk were taken from schools, etc. in the W.R.D.C. area and tested in this Office by the Inspectors. All the milk samples so tested proved to be genuine and of good quality.

Of the 56 samples of food and drugs, other than milk, submitted for analysis, only 3 gave any cause for complaint. These were one sample of baking powder, one of vinegar and one of sweet spirit of nitre.

In the first instance, that of the baking powder, the sample was certified by the Public Analyst to be low in available carbon dioxide. The vendor was cautioned and his small remaining stock of this baking powder was withdrawn from sale.

A sample sold as vinegar proved on analysis to be non-brewed condiment. The shopkeeper concerned was visited and when it was explained to him that it was an offence to sell non-brewed condiment as vinegar he gave an assurance that he would not do so again.

An informal sample of sweet spirit of nitre was slightly deficient in the active principle, ethyl nitrite. The residual stock was too small to provide a formal sample and the vendor was cautioned.

All other samples were certified by the Public Analyst as being genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

MILK REGULATIONS.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is now responsible for the supervision of milk production.

Milk distributors are registered by the District Council.

The number of licences issued during 1955, was—

Dealer's Licences	.....	50
Supplementary Licences	.....	8

BAKEHOUSES.

The number of bakehouses in the area is 29. One premises was registered and one was discontinued, during the year.

52 inspection were made, and in one case only was it found necessary to serve a notice upon the occupier to lime-wash the premises.

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

145 premises are registered with the Council under the Factory Act. During the year 5 premises discontinued operations and 6 new premises were registered.

The Sanitary Convenience was improved in 1 premises.

TABLE 25.

FACTORY.	<i>No. on Register.</i>
Bacon Factory	1
Blacksmiths	5
Boot Repairers	14
Bottling Works	2
Brickworks	13
Chemical Works	2
Chocolate Manufacturers	1
Coach Builders	2
Cotton, Weaving and Spinning	3
Cycle Shops	5
Dairies	2
Dressmaking and Tailoring	5
Electrical Equipment	5
Garages	37
Gas Works	3
Grass Drying	2
Iron, Steel and Metal Manufacturers	5
Joinery (Upholstery and Undertaking, Builders' Shops, etc.)	20
Laundries	3
Millers	2
Paint Manufacturers	1
Printers	3
Sawmills	3
Stonemasons	3
Seed Dressing	1
Tiled Fireplaces	2
	<hr/>
	145

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Public Cleansing is carried out by direct labour, 66 men are employed and twelve vehicles are operated.

Every effort is made to provide a weekly collection but at certain periods the staff is depleted through sickness resulting in a longer time lag between collections. Another cause which retards the work is the variety of containers used to store refuse and I would again suggest the Council consider the advisability of taking over the provision of ashbins to all premises, under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Mr. W. I. Hughes was appointed Refuse Removal Superintendent and commenced duties in September, 1955.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two rodent operators are employed, and carry out the inspection and treatment of premises infested by rats and mice.

During the year 53 Business premises and 388 private houses were treated.

All the Council's Sewers and Disposal Works are treated twice annually. In addition, constant inspection of refuse tips is made and where necessary treatment is carried out with the result that very few complaints are received regarding these properties.

60 farms have been inspected during the year. All infested premises were reported to the Pests Officer of the Agricultural Executive Committee who arranged for the necessary treatment to be carried out.

KNACKERS YARDS.

Two premises are licenced as Knackers Yards at :—

Tyddyn Daniel, Marchwiel.
Ffrwd, Brymbo.



